

A

GENERAL REGISTRY of BIRTHS,

KEPT AT

5

The HERALDS OFFICE

On St. Bennet's Hill near St. Paul's,

816. m. 23.

5 L O N D O N.

R. Snelgrave

AS a General REGISTRY of BIRTHS will be of the greatest Use in preventing many Controversies, and clearing up various Difficulties with Respect to Inheritances and Claims of different Natures, The KING'S, HERALDS, and PURSUIVANTS of Arms have thought proper to open a General Registry of the Births of all Persons, whether Natives, or Foreigners (whom the extensive Commerce of this Nation may invite to live among Us), who shall think fit to apply to them at the OFFICE of ARMS.

The supreme COURTS of JUDICATURE being held near this Metropolis, a General Registry of Births from all Parts of His MAJESTY's Dominions collected into one, and ready at hand to be consulted, as in the Case of Wills, must save great Trouble and Expence, which People are put to, when it is necessary to consult such Registers, as are now kept dispersed in the several Parishes; and which do not comprehend the numerous Births of Children not baptized in the Establish'd Church, or not baptized at all.

Proper Books will be provided for making the necessary Entries, viz. for LONDON, and Places within the Bills of Mortality; for the Country; and for the Colonies abroad: Likewise one for entering the Births of Persons of any Age born before Christmas-Day, 1747.

There will be Daily Attendance given, Holidays excepted, at the OFFICE of ARMS, or Heralds Office aforesaid, at the usual Office-Hours, viz. from Nine in the Morning till One, and from Three till Five in the Afternoon, by an Herald and a Pursuivant, who are sworn Officers; one of whom will make due and exact Entries of what is brought before them.

FOR such, who live in London, and can conveniently come to the Office, one or both the Parents are desired to attend there in Person; or, in case that can't be done, two Persons, who were present at the Birth, the Midwife for one, if convenient, may attend, and sign the Entry, which shall be witnessed by two Officers of Arms in the Register-Book, on paying the Fee of Half a Crown; and at the same time an attested Certificate of the Entry made shall be given upon Parchment, and sealed with the Seal of the Office.

For Persons at a Distance, they are desired to draw up a Certificate, to be signed either by one or both the Parents; or by two Persons present at the Birth, and, if convenient, the Midwife for one; and to go to some neighbouring Justice of the Peace, before whom they are desired to make Affidavit of the Truth; which Certificate and Affidavit, being transmitted to the Office, with the Fee of Half a Crown, shall be duly entered by one of the Officers in Waiting, and the Originals shall be filed, or otherwise carefully kept: But if one Person present at the Birth can attend the Office, and bring a Certificate signed by one or both the Parents; or two Persons present at the Birth, done in his Presence, such Certificate shall be enter'd, the Person so attending signing the Entry in the Register-Book, in the Presence of one of the Officers in Waiting.

If the Time and Place of the Parents MARRIAGE be also given in, it may be a Means of proving those Marriages with more Ease: But the Mother's Father's Name should always be inserted.

The Form of an ENTRY, when both Parents sign.

Our ^{Son} *John* was born at our ^{House} *Lodgings*, in the Parish of *Hatfield*, in the ^{County of} *Essex*, on the ^{fourth} Day of *June*, in the Year ^{One thousand Seven hundred and Forty-one}; we having been married at *St. Bride's* in *London*, on the ^{third} Day of *May*, in the Year ¹⁷⁴⁰. as witness our Hands this ^{6th} of *Jan.* ¹⁷⁴⁷.

Witnesses present at the Birth of
John Doe, on *June 4. 1741.* as above.

A. B. Midwife,
C. D. Nurse.

Richard Doe,
Son of *John Doe*, by *Ann*
his Wife, Daughter of
Tho. Stiles.

Mary Doe, Daughter of
John Roe, of *St. Luke's* in
the ^{City of} *York* *Ham*
the ^{County of} *Essex*.

The Form of an ENTRY, when only one Parent signs.

My ^{Son} *John*, by *Mary* my Wife, Daughter of *John Roe*, of ^{St. Luke's} in the ^{City of} *York* ^{County of} *Essex*, to whom I was married at *St. Bride's* in *London*, on the ^{third} Day of *May*, in the Year ¹⁷⁴⁰. was born at my ^{House} *Lodgings* in the Parish of ^{St. John's} *Hatfield*, in the ^{County of} *Essex*, on the ^{fourth} Day of *June*, in the Year ^{One thousand Seven hundred and Forty-one}; as witness my Hand, this ^{6th} *Jan.* ¹⁷⁴⁷.

Witnesses present at the Birth of
John Doe, on *June 4. 1741.* as above.

A. B. Midwife,
C. D. Nurse.

Richard Doe,
Son of *John Doe*,
by *Ann* his Wife, Daughter of
Thomas Stiles.

N. B. If the Mother signs, the Form to be changed accordingly.

The Form of an ENTRY, when Parents are dead, or cannot attend; and the Marriages cannot be known.

John the ^{Son} of *Richard Doe*, by *Mary* his Wife, Daughter of *John Roe*, of ^{St. Luke's} in the ^{City of} *York* ^{County of} *Essex* was born at his Father's ^{House} *Lodgings*, in the Parish of ^{St. John's} *Hatfield*, in the ^{County of} *Essex*, on the ^{fourth} Day of *June*, in the Year ^{One thousand Seven hundred and Forty-one}; at which Birth we were present, and do certify, that the said *Richard* and *Mary Doe* did stile themselves Man and Wife, did cohabit, and were reputed as such, for at least nine Months before this Child was born; as witness our Hands this ^{6th} *Jan.* ¹⁷⁴⁷.

A. B. Midwife,
C. D. Nurse,
and others present.